

Weekly report for week ending March 22.

Office Name ORA	Activity	Press Interest/Coverage
Congressional/Intergovernmental	BP Whiting Oil Spill Response	No press.
Not responsive		
Not responsive		

ORA Weekly Report

BP Whiting Oil Spill Response: During the week of March 24, Congressional staff assisted in the response to the oil spill by: coordinating a call between the Regional Administrator and Sen. Durbin; reaching out to federal, state, and local officials; organizing elected officials conference calls for an on-scene coordinator to provide a briefing; responded to inquiries from House and Senate offices; and shared EPA press releases with interested offices.

Sen. Donnelly Superfund 101 Briefing: On March 24, Superfund and Congressional staff briefed Sen. Donnelly's senior Indiana staff on the Superfund program, focusing on the remedial program.

Sen. Durbin STAG Issue: On March 24, Congressional staff worked with WD and Sen. Durbin's staff to reallocate a grant for Macoupin County, Illinois.

Detroit Great Lakes Shoreline Cities Event: During the week of March 24, Congressional staff shared press materials with congressional and state offices and coordinated event attendance.

Sen. Baldwin Boiler MACT Inquiry: On March 26, Congressional staff coordinated with Sen. Baldwin's office to connect a Rhineland paper company with appropriate EPA staff.

Rep. Joyce Inquiry Regarding Locomotives: During the week of March 24, Congressional staff responded to questions from Rep. Joyce's (OH) staff concerning noise and idling issues at a CSX rail yard.

National Eagle Horizon Exercise: The Region 5 Homeland Security Advisor participated in the national Eagle Horizon Exercise representing the Region 5 EPA Regional Administrator as the Chair of the Chicago Federal Executive Board (FEB). Participation involved responding to a call down from the Executive Director of the Chicago FEB, Jean Brown. The call went out the morning of Thursday, March 27, 2014 and EPA responded.

Petition for Cumulative Effects Assessment of Mining in Lake Superior Basin: On December 16, a coalition of 59 environmental, community, civic, and other organizations wrote to EPA Region 5 requesting that we prepare a cumulative effects assessment of impacts from mining activities in the Lake Superior Basin. The petitioners are especially concerned about mining impacts to water quality, wild rice, subsistence fishing, habitats, and tribal resources within reservations or protected by off-reservation treaty rights.

Weekly report for week ending March 28, 2014

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We have taken the request under advisement.